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8 SEP 30 1999 MR. BROWN: I'd like to call our next speaker,
9 Janet Errett.

10 MS. ERRETT: I'd like to relay a story that
11 happened in 1986, the summer of 1986.

12 I was awakened in the middle of the night -- it
13 was 3:00 in the morning, actually -- by a rumble, a continuous
14 rumble. It would quit and then it would rumble again and then
15 it would quit again, and I'm not a person that would rise
16 easily, but this kept continuing and continuing. It was just
17 incessant. It was ongoing.

18 I got up, went outside to look at Highway 372 to
19 see what was going on. Well, what I saw was black -- brand new
20 black tractor-trailers with no headlights on carrying three
21 fully loaded brand new stainless steel, the largest cement
22 haulers I had ever seen in my entire life rumbling one after
23 another.

24 I stood there for fifteen minutes watching this
25 incessant going on of these tractor-trailers with all this

1 concrete in the middle of the night with no headlights, nothing
2 but running lights doing about 80 miles an hour.

3 My hair was blowing in the wind as they went by,
4 and it was not a windy night; it was a very still night, and as
5 I stood there, I realized the implication of what this meant,
6 and tears started streaming down my face.

7 The Nuclear Test Site had had a nuclear accident.

8 They turned left at the bank and went down

9 Highway 160. Where they went from there, I assume was the

1 10 Nuclear Test Site. I didn't know that until this year when it

...1...

11 was announced that they did indeed have a nuclear leak at the
12 Nevada Test Site in the year of 1996 -- or '86, and that was
13 exactly what I witnessed.

14 The Department of Energy really is not
15 accountable to us for what they do. I really don't feel that
16 in this case their level of accountability will be any better.

17 There were -- I made a mental note that night to
18 stay indoors for the next few weeks, not to spend a whole lot
19 of time outside, but who -- who among us had children playing
20 outside? Who had garden vegetables off the vine?

21 You know, who would have changed their personal
22 activities if they had actually known what indeed had happened
23 here?

24 But we didn't know. We weren't allowed that
25 privilege.

...1

1 The Department of Energy is currently being sued
2 at three other facilities for leaks that they didn't report to
3 the general public for fear of the public's reaction, and this
4 is in -- one of them is in the State of Colorado.

5 The other two -- I can't remember where the other
6 two are, but this is the -- this is the fact, also.

2

7 The alternatives to the Yucca Mountain site --
8 there are two alternatives. None of them -- neither one are
9 considered viable alternatives to the Yucca Mountain site, so
10 this Environmental Impact Statement has no validity.

11 If there is nothing to compare the Yucca Mountain
12 site to, how can the Environmental Impact Statement be valid
13 itself?

3

14 It seems somewhat ludicrous to me to haul -- I'll
15 give you an analogy here. A spent fuel rod is like a lit match
16 with gasoline poured on it, okay.

17 It's not really spent at all. It's become so --
18 so volatile and -- you just -- you can't even handle it, and it
19 seems somewhat ludicrous to me to haul this type of material
20 from 72 different commercial reactor sites and five Department
21 of Energy waste sources in 35 states to Yucca Mountain.

22 It makes absolutely no sense to take this
23 material and haul it all across these states. None of these
24 people on these proposed routes have been notified that this
25 is -- is a possibility, okay.

4

1 Okay. The fact that they've not selected a
2 transportation mode or route really bothers me. The fact that
3 they do not actually selected a repository design that we can
4 actually study the impacts on, that bothers me, and the fact
5 that we've not been given any time at all to study a very large
6 and difficult document that they've put out.

6

7 The Environmental Impact Statement is a huge -- a
8 huge statement that requires a great deal of study, and I
9 imagine many people that are part of the study don't understand
10 all parts of it.

11 Now, the fact that they brought this to us
12 within, what is it, eight weeks after this study has been
13 brought out really is not fair to our community in general.

7...

14 It is against the law in the State of Nevada to
15 contaminate groundwater, and Nevada did pass a law against
16 having a nuclear repository in the state.

...7

17 I know that they passed their own laws not to
18 study any other alternatives. That's a fact that bothers me,
19 and the fact that any groundwater at all comes in contact with
5 20 these containers to me is not acceptable.

21 These things should be kept completely dry and
22 nothing should ever touch them.

23 Okay. That's all I have.